Tamil Nadu - Kedaga symbol means protection.

The above Kedaga symbol appears in Kodumanal. page no 114, book of Gurumurthy.

This is a kedaga (shield) symbol from Karur. The graffiti inscription reads the following: Read from right to left. The first symbol indicates the “Thunderbolt,” Varuna's weapon. The second symbol indicates the karkida moth offering to Pithrus (Ancestors). The third symbol represents the shield (kedaga). This means an offering was made to Pithrus to protect them in heaven or hell, depending on their karma.

At this juncture, I am compelled by instinct to recount an incident. I was working in Trichy in 2017 and went to Srirangam to perform my Pithru karma on the day of Sarvapithri Amavasya, which falls in September (the date varies every year depending on the Amavasya, the new moon Date). It was overcrowded, and I was trapped in the crowd, unable to move in any direction. I returned without offering my respects to my parents. Still, that feeling of failure is lingering within me.

It is an essential ritual for every Hindu, and that is what our ancestors in Tamil Nadu were doing. It was the Pithru Karma ritual. It was the same in IVC. It is the same ritual that links India and maintains its unity.

In the Hindu tradition, the most crucial day to offer pithru karma (ancestral rituals) to ancestors in Srirangam and across India is during Sarvapitri Amavasya, which falls on the new moon day (Amavasya) of the lunar month of Bhadrapada. (1)

Pitru Paksha, 16 days in the Hindu calendar, is dedicated to honouring deceased ancestors through rituals such as Shradh and Tarpan. Sarvapitri Amavasya is the final day of the Pitru Paksha and is considered the most significant day to perform pithru karma for all ancestors, regardless of when they passed away.

Shradhh involves offering food, water, and prayers to the ancestors. Tarpan involves offering water mixed with black sesame seeds to the spirits of the departed. Pithru Thila Tharpana is another ritual performed to appease the ancestral souls. Hindus believe performing these rituals during Pitru Paksha helps appease their ancestors' souls and gain their blessings. (1)